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AIMS :

1. To encourage and promote unbiased scientific investigation and research into Unidentified Flying Object phenomena.
2. To collect and disseminate evidence and data relating to Unidentified Flying Objects.
3. To co-ordinate UFO Research on a nation-wide scale and co-operate with persons and organisations engaged upon similar research in all parts of the world.

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THE BUFORA JOURNAL

Volume 3 Number 8

Autumn 1972

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EDITORIAL

In the course of an article appearing in this issue of the 'Journal,' Norman Oliver writes:

" . . . we are constantly being told that there are thousands if not millions of inhabited planets . . . "

We are indeed, *ad nauseam*, but there is in fact no direct evidence whatsoever to support the statement.

While it was possible to assume that UFOs might be extra-terrestrial spacecraft, the existence of at least one other inhabited planet in outer space could safely be postulated. Now that the ETH is generally abandoned, for good and sufficient reasons, we are back where we started.

The educated public probably adopts the Doctrine of the Plurality of Worlds mainly for aesthetic reasons. People do not like to think of innumerable barren, lifeless planets endlessly circling useless suns. Materialistic scientists have another and less disinterested motive for supporting the Doctrine. Their cherished contention that man is merely an intelligent ape, inhabiting a speck of dust in a Universe which is itself the product of blind forces acting at random, might be set at risk by a realisation that Earth and Man could possess a quality of uniqueness.

The aesthetic argument falls down when we consider that Nature is infinitely prodigal in her mode of action. An oak tree produces millions of acorns during its life-span, only one of which, after several centuries, becomes a tree itself. Countless millions of spores of ferns, seeds of plants, eggs of fish and the like, go to waste for every one which reproduces the parent form.

The materialistic argument has no real bearing on the question. Earth might be alone in the Universe as the home of Man, or merely one of a million planets bearing intelligent beings, whether the Cosmos is the product of Chance or Design.

We know too little about the formation of planets and the origin of life, much less about the development of intelligence, to do more than speculate about a possible Plurality of Worlds. An agnostic attitude towards the problem is the only sound attitude in the total absence of reliable data.

Alfred Russel Wallace, Darwin's great co-worker in the development of the Theory of Organic Evolution, regarded the Earth and Man as unique in the Universe and wrote a book in support of his contention. His findings were:

" That no other planet in the solar system than our earth is inhabited or habitable.

That the probabilities are almost as great against any other sun possessing inhabited planets."

Coming forward to our own generation, we find Nobel prize-winner and distinguished physiologist Sir John Eccles stating:

" The likelihood that there is intelligent life elsewhere in the universe is so remote as to be out of the question.

Life of any kind on earth is a fantastic improbability. It could happen only once."

Minority opinions no doubt. But the opinions, not of astronomers or physicists, but of men outstanding in the field of the life-sciences and aware of the length and complexity of the Evolutionary process. For the record, Wallace was a Spiritualist and Eccles is a Materialist.

In conclusion, with some diffidence, I venture to wonder how the current astronomical picture of the stellar universe will stand up to the accumulating knowledge of future generations. I could cite not a few gross errors and discrepancies in the calculations of astronomers involving the bodies of our own solar system. Can we measure the distant scene accurately while we are unable to determine correctly the dimensions of our own backyard?

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CALLING ALL RESEARCHERS

Over the last few years I have been struck—as no doubt have most readers—by the way in which ufological opinion generally has been veering from the “alien craft visitation” theme, commonly known as the ETH, towards the “never-never land” of “Keelism,” “Ultra-terrestrials” “mental manipulation by alien intelligences” and so on; this I believe to be a pity, since the tendency seems not for the newer theories to co-exist with the older ones, but to be systematically edging them out altogether.

Quite a regular pattern emerges so far as UFO enthusiasts and researchers are concerned: unless previously involved in psychic investigations or with religious groups, the average new UFO enthusiast will begin by avidly devouring all sighting reports available—and quite frequently may accept them without question! He—or she—will then commence to realise that a high proportion of reports can be otherwise explained and will become more selective in their approach, quite possibly joining a local or national UFO investigation group in the process.

The next step our enthusiast will take is to become interested in research—but here another snag crops up—what sort of research will bring results? It has been painfully obvious over the years that research has literally brought us nowhere—except perhaps to the point brought out in my first paragraph, namely that we are reaching, or perhaps even have reached, the stage where theories have to be adduced to explain why our research is getting nowhere!

Do not misunderstand me—I am not belittling BUFORA’s past or present efforts in this field, and it could well be that as a result of programmes at present instituted rewarding results may be obtained, but certainly no group or society has made more than the very slightest dent in solving the mystery of what UFOs are, where they have come from and who or what controls their manifestations. These negative results, coupled with the extreme variety of reports—particularly contact reports and in many cases parallels with psychic phenomena—have in fact led to the point where a form of research has been evoked which will explain why other forms are negative: so—we now have “control” by an alien intelligence or intelligences, quite possible indigenous to this Earth and co-existent with us, which,

not liking (quite understandably!) our company and probings too much, consequently endows us with all sorts of hallucinatory imaginings and manifestations in order to create confusion (the old "divide and rule"). There is, though, one snag about this type of theory, namely that if such an entity—or entities—is passing a pleasant eon or two playing with our minds, why should it, they or them have permitted any researcher to discover (if indeed there is anything to discover) that this is what they are doing?

However I have digressed, so let me return to my poor researcher who, having become interested in UFO research with the accent on the ETH has become disillusioned, both by the paper work involved and the lack of positive results: what is his next step? Either he will decide the subject is not worth pursuing and "pigeonhole" it, or he will become more interested in contacts and "contact" subjects. The former are far more interesting than mere reports of funny-looking lights in the sky, but here again, our researcher will soon become baffled and bewildered as he discovers that our "alien friends" come from Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Jupiter's moons, Saturn, Neptune, Uranus, the planets around Alpha Centauri, Sirius, Vega, Epsilon Eridani, a "twin" Earth, planet X, planets we are not permitted to wot of, etc., etc.!! He will also find that they are benevolent beings, hostile entities, aliens interested in Earth's welfare relative to other planets, not to mention those who are completely indifferent as well! Telepathic contact becomes equally confusing, as the entities involved have a disturbing habit either of telling us their place of origin doesn't matter: we wouldn't understand anyway: names mean nothing: or even of claiming someone as the sole interplanetary distributor of their particular brand of information!

Our researcher, sadder and no wiser, will now decide in all probability to take a look at "contact" subjects—those which impinge upon the UFO problem but are not an immediately obvious part of it: subjects as varied as psychometry, disappearances, myths and religions, archeology, witchcraft, tape phenomena, astral projection, poltergeists, fairies—even the Loch Ness Monster! He may by this time have become involved with one of the "contact" subjects than with UFOs and quits UFO research altogether: if not, he may well decide that the UFO enigma is but one part of the greater question WHY? As Peter Wain indicated in an earlier article this may well be so.

Nevertheless, whether it be part of a greater question or an enigma of its own, the researcher will gain nothing from complete withdrawal from an interesting subject. The gamut of ufological experience having been run there are, in my humble opinion, two main fields of approach—neither of which I claim as original thoughts on my part. The first stems from Dr. Hynek who suggests specialisation—even extreme specialisation—in research, so that each investigator may examine one small facet of the subject to the full. Perhaps societies like BUFORA could be of major assistance here, for such specialisation requires a co-ordinating body to whom reports may be sent for correlation. The proposed publication in BUFORA's Guide to the UFO Phenomenon of specialised reports is an encouraging step in this direction. The second avenue of approach is a study of contactees—I do not mean in order to break down a "hoax" story, though obviously this is an open field for hoaxing—as indeed is ufology generally: rather however, to see if it is possible

to discover WHY one person was contacted rather than another and whether one or more common factors appear. Lastly, it is necessary that all types of report and ideas—not limited to any one facet—presented in an unbiased a manner as possible, should be available to the researcher: this, I feel, is my own role at present in the magazine GEMINI.

To sum up:— The researcher should consider all (alleged) facts and theories and not allow him or herself to be biased for or against any unless they are clearly provable or disprovable.

The ETH should retain a place in our deliberations since, after all, we are constantly being told there are thousands if not millions of inhabited planets—and if only one or two have evinced an interest in Earth, these can account for a proportion, albeit quite possibly a small one, of sighting, landing and contact reports.

Specialisation could well be of great assistance, but only if there is a body to “co-ordinate” the specialists.

One thing I consider fatal, and that is to assume either

- (a) that the UFO enigma can only be solved within the framework of our present scientific knowledge and that a “nuts and bolts” approach is essential or
- (b) that Flying Saucers are outside the realms of science altogether and the “scientific” approach is useless.

What is required is a recognition that no type of approach can be ruled out, since if we knew what we were researching, we wouldn't be researching to discover it, having learned the correct avenue of approach in any case. Like many others, I consider the UFO enigma will be with us many, many years yet, but this is no reason why we should not continue to try to chip away—and chip away in as many different places as possible—at the rock of bewilderment it has created.

NORMAN OLIVER,

Managing Editor GEMINI.

ASSOCIATION NEWS

The Annual General Meeting in October had a much larger attendance than usual and it is a hopeful sign that members obviously wish to take an active interest in the running of the Association. We certainly need as much support as possible from the scientific fraternity—and it is hoped to enlarge our field here—but this is not to say that patronage from the non-scientific section is not greatly appreciated. UFO research is a great leveller—even a child has as much chance as an Einstein of solving this frustrating enigma. It may well be that an idea, theory or clue put forward by one person could be further developed by another—so please do not hesitate to let us have your views.

Now that the rigours of our non-summer are over, most of us will be thinking of putting our feet up in front of the fire and indulging in cosy UFO speculation, no doubt aided by a study of Dr. Hynek's latest book and, it is hoped, by BUFORA Journal. Actually winter could be one of the best skywatch opportunities, the skies on a frosty night being clear, with the stars well defined. One could take the opportunity of introducing one's friends to basic astronomy, which might save a lot of wasted time on reports of "lights in the sky" from enthusiastic but misguided witnesses who happen to see planets or stars at their maximum brightness for the first time. This happened recently in Australia when a crowd of some 300 people gathered to watch and photograph what was later identified as "definitely being Venus." There are, however, one or two puzzling aspects about the sighting and all may not be as clear-cut as the authorities would wish.

Britain's "Flying Saucer" spy satellite could well be a further headache for UFO researchers, inasmuch as it will probably be used to explain away future UFO sightings. It is as well to remember that this craft is said to be invisible to the naked eye at 10,000 ft., being only 3ft. in diameter—and is not planned to be in full production for 2 years, although obviously tests have been made somewhere.

No doubt many such prototypes are being built and designed by the major world powers. During the South African UFO flap earlier this year, the Sunday Times' (S.A.) Supplement included an article on Mrs. Elizabeth Klarer, a well-known Adamski-type contactee of the 1950's. Mrs. Klarer, now in her early 60's, still claims that her story is entirely factual but adds that there is a certain nation on earth which is making jet and rocket-propelled craft, built on a circular pattern, and these "mostly come from underground bases in mountainous areas, particularly at the South Pole."

Mrs. Klarer, about whom there has raged almost as much controversy as George Adamski, is an intriguing personality apart from her alleged UFO experiences. She qualified at Cambridge as a meteorologist, later returning to South Africa where in 1933 she married Captain W. Stafford Phillips, a pilot, who taught her to fly light aircraft. It was while they were flying over the Drakensburg in 1937 that a circular UFO paced their aircraft and Captain Phillips reported this strange phenomenon as soon as he landed at Baragwanath later that day. Shortly after this incident Capt. Phillips was sent to England to work at the De Havilland Experimental Station at Hatfield and it was here that his wife was employed as a meteorologist and began her work with the R.A.F. as an observer of aerial phenomena. Later she did decoding for the R.A.F. and research into "Foo fighters." Mrs. Klarer is one of 88 people acknowledged for their "rare" information selected by Lynn E. Catoe of the Library of Congress for the American Government's special publication UFO's and Related Subjects issued in July 1969 for the United States Air Force Aero-space Research Division. A fascinating career; no one doubts Mrs. Klarer's sincerity but naturally reservations remain

The question is, what does constitute a reputable witness? 14-year old school-boys are obviously going to be very suspect in the future, which is hard on the genuine witnesses. Policemen are not always very bright when it comes to astronomy and middle-aged ladies with romantic leanings are definitely regarded as *non compos mentis*. Perhaps we may then take a leaf out of Motor Insurance Companies' books and regard vicars as the least risk?

BETTY WOOD.

NOTES & QUOTES

What are we studying?

According to those with a defective sense of euphony, the "YEW-EFF-OW." Dr. Condon took a very dim view of the "OOFO."

The late Captain Ruppelt of Project Bluebook made a study of the "YOU-FOE." Since it was Ruppelt who invented the abbreviation, as an alternative to the colloquial "Flying Saucer," we must, I think, adopt his version.

Food for Thought.

"Some of the stars may actually be thousands of light years nearer than astronomy believes them to be."—Dr. P. Van de Kamp.

The size of the 'Journal.'

This 'Journal' will possibly emerge in a larger size when we begin Volume 4, six issues from now. It must stay at the present size

for the next five issues in order to facilitate the binding together of the 12 issues of Volume 3. This is in answer to a point raised at the recent A.G.M.

Entry into Europe.

Britain's impending entry into the E.E.C. has provoked speculations about a possible European UFO organisation. This appears a trifle

naive, in view of the utter inability of British researchers to sink their differences and unite in one society with a common policy.

One for Charles Fort.

"A wild boar was captured by police after a 90 minute chase through gardens at Odiham, Hampshire, at the weekend. Wild boar

became extinct in this country about 400 years ago."—'Daily Telegraph,' 7.8.'72.

Good News for Patriots.

After having read that Jack-the-Ripper was a predatory spaceman from a flying saucer, or, alternatively, the Russian anarchist Pedach-

enko, I am relieved to learn from a recent book by Daniel Farson that he was actually a barrister named Druitt, a Wykehamist and B.A. of New College, Oxford. As such, he may clearly be adjudged worthy to join the Distinguished Gallery of Fine Old British Eccentrics.

Not a Gatecrasher!

Richard Colborne, who has assumed the post of Investigation Co-ordinator in succession to Mr. C. A. E. O'Brien, asks me to point out

that he has been a co-opted member of the National Executive Committee for the past year. This is so and the fact that his name did not appear with those of other Committee members in the 'Journal' is attributable solely to my negligence. Richard's work at Warminster and Banbury underlines his suitability for the post, in which I know we all wish him well.

Project Warminster.

I have now reassumed the post of Director of this Project, which I relinquished *pro tem* to Mr. Robin Lindsey in April 1972. The Project will not be revived as such next Spring but will become 'Warminster File,' in my charge and under the direct aegis of BUFORA. I thank all who have assisted with Project Warminster since it was launched in May 1971.

Yet Another Hoax.

The Press has been having a field day over the news that the celebrated Alex Birch UFO photograph of June 1962 is nothing more than a clever hoax. I am afraid that no attempts to weave new mysteries into the exposure will bear examination. We have been well and truly 'taken for a ride' and may as well grin sheepishly and own up to the fact. This revelation, by the way, calls into question the authenticity of the Pratt UFO photograph of March 1966, which is currently under re-examination. First Fogl and now Birch. Is nothing trustworthy in the field of UFO photography? It is, of course, a region in which fakery is rampant. I have seen a large number of alleged UFO photographs and have no hesitation in dismissing most of them as fabricated. I was never in much doubt that the Fogl object was a deception but I admit that I had no suspicion at all of Alex Birch.

J. C-B.

BOOKS FOR SALE

The UFO Experience by Allen Hynek. 10 photos. 276 pages. £2.62

Official Guide to UFOs compiled by "Science & Mechanics" 42p

UFO and the Bible by M. K. Jessup. Quarto-size pbk., reprint. £2.15

Investigating UFOs by Larry Kettelkamp. 18 photos. £1.35

Analysis of A.F. Project Blue Book Report No. 14.

Leon Davidson. £2.10

Saga's UFO Special No. 3. 80 page magazine from USA, 1972. 40p

On the Track of Unknown Animals by Bernard Heuvelmans.

333 pages. 85p

The Search for Morag (Loch Morar Monster) E. M. Campbell.

Illus. £2.00

Morning of the Magicians (Dawn of Magic) by Louis Pauwels

and Jacques Bergier. Illustrated. 303 pages. 58p

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THINK TANK

During the Summer months, your National Executive Committee received many helpful and interesting suggestions sent in by members not only in response to requests but also spontaneously. One member said that as he read through the "interesting" Spring Journal and Special Supplement, "I was lost for words other than praise. I thought this MUST be Spring! Suddenly I felt more a member than ever with plenty of new and forward looking ideas very much to my liking." The Committee was very heartened by these remarks and grateful to many other members who wrote with similar words of encouragement.

We thought you might be interested to learn the nature of these suggestions, many of which have been or presently are being implemented. The Committee particularly wishes to thank the following members for their suggestions which are summarised below:—

Mrs. E. Riddock, Miss E. C. Hargreaves, R. P. Knowles, Esq., Richard Nash, Esq., Clement Langley, Esq., W. H. Chester, Esq., Richard Colborne, Esq., R. Selmes, Esq., A. J. Brindley, Esq., Peter Rogerson, Esq., Richard Farrow, Esq., and J. V. Webber, Esq.

General Suggestions :

"Improve BUFORA'S scientific status and relationship with the scientific community. Emphasis in near future on publicity and research. BUFORA should not attempt to be everything to everybody. After the A.G.M., the rest of the evening should be devoted to discussing the future plans and policies of BUFORA. A "Labour Co-ordinator" should be appointed on the Committee to liaise and communicate regularly with members and branches to ensure that their respective needs are met.

Income could be increased by: (a) Private Pool's Syndicate and, (b) Monthly Draw.

Publicise BUFORA at Exhibitions and Shows by means of puppetry and a walk-around model Flying Saucer especially for children in order to attract attention of parents and other adults. Institute a promotion campaign and advertise. Print car stickers and badges, etc.

Do not neglect the provinces but arrange lectures and seminars out of London.

At election time, provide for nominations to the Committee by postal ballot and put an end to Committee secrecy.

Concentrate on improving research and publicity and the maintenance of records before providing a permanent staff and lavish central office."

Research and Investigation Suggestions

"Supply more information on important sightings. Produce a standard identikit of UFO shapes and colours, etc., for use by investigators. Establish a network of UFO detectors. Sykwatches are of very limited value.

Regional co-ordinators and local investigators should be trained and coached to do their job uniformly and properly at carefully planned seminars. Priority should be given to the provision of an efficient photographic analysis facility."

Publications and Journal Suggestions

"Instead of a single Journal, BUFORA should be publishing at least four periodicals:—

- (a) A Proceedings Annual or semi-annual.
- (b) A quarterly Journal—containing shorter research articles, general essays on theoretical and practical topics, short notes, serious correspondence, reviews, abstracts of major specialist periodicals, research in progress, etc.
- (c) A monthly Research Newsletter including recent UFO Reports under investigation.
- (d) A Newsletter of "popular" features, a forum for the uninhibited expression of members' views in an informal atmosphere.

Suggestions for Journal contents were as follows:—

- (a) Articles on unusual natural and man-made phenomena.
- (b) Summaries of interesting new and scientific developments and discoveries.
- (c) One good UFO report with details of its full investigation.
- (d) Articles on related and relevant subjects, e.g. radar, satellites, etc.
- (e) Summaries of current inexplicable happenings—"oddities."
- (f) Information and essential descriptive background about various officers and leading figures in the UFO world, together with their viewpoints.

All the above suggestions represent much food for thought and many of these are already being acted upon. Thank you to all those who took the trouble to write. Suggestions and offers of help from members are always welcome and appreciated.

ROGER STANWAY.

THE EDITOR COMMENTS:

I am impelled, writing purely from a personal standpoint, to comment on one or two of the above criticisms and observations.

As regards nominations for Committee membership, before every A.G.M., in accordance with the terms of the BUFORA Constitution, all members receive a notice reminding them, among other things, that nominations for the Committee should be forwarded by a stated date. Any member can nominate any other member so long as he can find a seconder for the proposal. The existing members of the Committee are generally elected unopposed because we haven't received any outside nominations—and whose fault is that?

There is no "Committee secrecy" so far as I am aware. Committee meetings are held in private and the minutes of such meetings are not generally available to the membership as a whole, but this is common practice among executive bodies. Were it otherwise we should forfeit the "qualified privilege" which legally obtains in respect of Committee proceedings and this would render frank and free discussion on certain matters hazardous if not impossible.

The suggestion that BUFORA should publish four or more periodicals is ridiculous.

Firstly, there isn't enough money available. There is a limit to what we can do with the amount of cash obtained from four hundred or so members paying a comparatively modest annual subscription. One must, in this connection, bear in mind ever-escalating production and postage costs.

Secondly, where is the material to come from, bearing in mind that from time to time it has to be spread pretty thin even to fill this 'Journal'?

Thirdly, our Committee members and officers, simply haven't got the time to engage in literary activity on such a scale.

Let it be stated loud and clear, the officers and Committee members who carry on the work of BUFORA are part-time, unpaid volunteers, most of whom have their livings to earn. They spend much of their spare time and cash on the Association. They are not superhuman, and there is a limit to how much they can accomplish.

There seem to be a few members who live in a cloud-cuckooland of fantasy and imagine that time and money are commodities of which our officers have an unlimited supply. Would that it were so!

If you have complaints or criticisms concerning any aspect of Association activities, forward them to me. I'll do my best to reply.

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THE UFO VISION

Part I

(Editorial Note : This is the first of a series of major cases that will appear in forthcoming issues. This issue contains the first of three parts describing an intriguing and thought-provoking occurrence with strong UFO implications).

1. INTRODUCTION

This is the first time that the details of this strange and ominous occurrence have been published. The persons involved, the percipients of these experiences, have recounted the intimate details only after a considerable period of hesitation during which time the BUFORA investigator, who wishes to remain anonymous, has had to gain the percipients complete confidence and trust. Therefore, the information has been supplied to BUFORA on the strict understanding that confidentiality and anonymity are preserved although all the details do appear on BUFORA'S own files. Readers will no doubt appreciate the reason for anonymity as the facts of the case unfold.

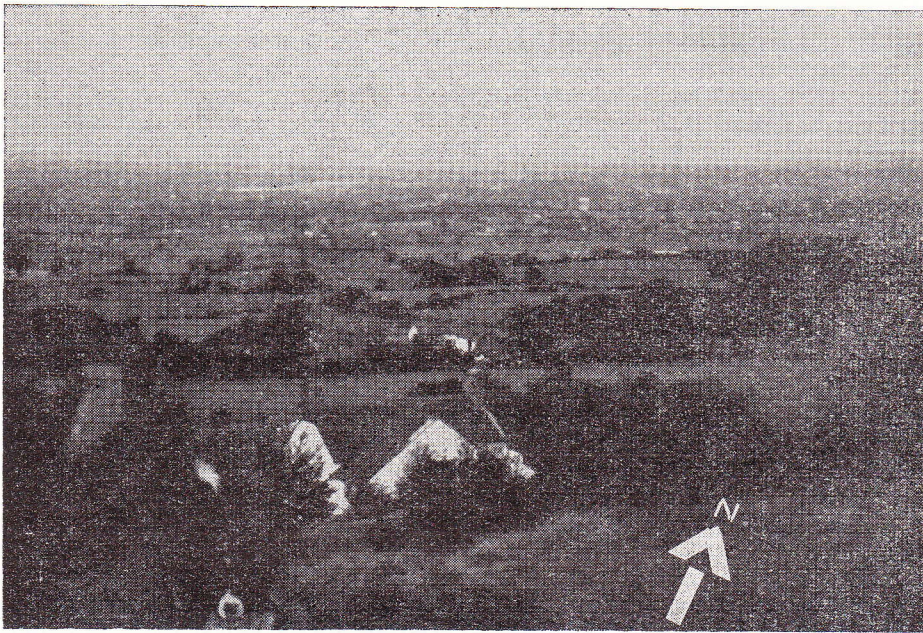
The events described took place in the early hours (approximately 2.00 a.m.) of the morning of Monday, 16th January, 1967, which has been confirmed by a diary entry made by one of the percipients later that same day. The location cannot unfortunately be disclosed save to say that it is in England.

2. BACKGROUND DETAILS

All the presently known percipients are members of the same family who are referred to as the Ardern family. At the time of the occurrence they all lived in a three bedroomed, white house nestling at the foot of a steep north-west facing slope of a hill, standing approximately 150 metres above a flat plain consisting mainly of farmland. (See photograph). The house is fairly isolated although there is a farm about 1000 metres to the north.

The Ardern family consisted at that time of Mr. and Mrs. Ardern, their three sons and one daughter. The elder son, Eric, then aged 29, was a talented artist and part-time lecturer in art who was rapidly gaining a local and national reputation for the quality of his paintings. James, the second son, then aged 24, had obtained a Higher National Diploma in Pyhsics and was also a gifted pianist having advanced grades of the Royal College of Music. The daughter Margaret, then aged 14, was still attending school. The youngest son, Richard, then aged 19, was not living at home at that time but was studying art at a well known Art College.

Mr. Ardern was no longer working during the day as he had retired prematurely owing to illness. The Ardens lived modestly and recognised the virtue of hard work and industry. Apart from Mr. Ardern, who read the Bible frequently, the family was not particularly religious although Mr. and Mrs. Ardern attended the local Methodist Chapel regularly and had encouraged their children to attend Sunday School when they were younger. It is of interest to note at this point that although Mr. Ardern had been a miner, he was unusually well read and articulate which largely stemmed from his alert mind and considerable intelligence. He also dreamed vividly and consistently, so much so that it had become a daily routine in the family for father to recount the details of his dreams as a story every morning at breakfast.



3. THE EXPERIENCE

On the night in question, 16th January 1967, the sleeping arrangements were as indicated on the accompanying plan (see page 32).

The weather was good for the time of year being dry and relatively warm, owing largely to the thick layer of low lying cloud which had blotted out the heavens that night. The countryside was quiet and still when the Arderns went to bed.

The events that followed were apparently perceived by members of the family in varying degrees although both Eric and James had the most vivid experiences of all which were uncannily similar.

At this stage, it is perhaps appropriate to relate verbatim the exact words and descriptions used by the percipients in order to avoid the possibility of bias or inaccuracy introduced by the investigator.

4. ERIC'S ACCOUNT

The following is an extract transcript taken from a tape recording of a statement made by Eric Ardern to the investigator on 16th September 1970.

"On the night in question, I retired about 11.00 and the rest of my family were downstairs watching television. As usual on this particular occasion I dropped off to sleep fairly quickly and the first thing I realised was that I was aroused by a very high pitched hum which apparently had either been of a higher amplitude at that particular time or in fact it had been so monotonous beforehand that it had aroused me from my sleep. It sounded very much like a high pitched generator, to which in past years I had been accustomed to in working in a generating plant.

On becoming somewhat more alerted to this sound I reverted to a lying position on my back, the side position which I was on previously somewhat limited my hearing. I lay there for some minutes listening to the sound trying to identify it other than what I had previously described. The sound seemed to oscillate at a particular frequency but its amplitude varying giving a constant depreciation in amplitude which successively regained a greater amplitude every respective cycle. After some time the sound reached a peak whereby there was just a continuous oscillation at a definite amplitude—that in between a definite minimum and maximum. The length of the cycle was rather unusual inasmuch that it was somewhat prolonged—about ten seconds or thereabouts or could have been longer—but certainly the oscillation was repeatable inasmuch that the time cycle was constant.

After lying for some time, probably five minutes, listening to the sound I decided to get out of bed and locate its source which seemed to be somewhere outside the house. However, on trying to get out of bed my actions were severely limited by what seemed to be some great pressure bearing down upon the whole of my body. Any attempt I made to turn over on to my right hand side to throw myself out of bed were severely restricted. Further attempts to overcome this unusual force resulted in raising my anxiety and my sweat rate which was incredible. After about half a minute realising that I was getting nowhere, I decided to collect my thoughts and just lie calmly on the bed, but at the same time the forces seemed to be still there, still persisting even though I made no attempt to overcome this. During this interlude it was here that a noise appeared from nowhere and made the statement quite simply that which was, "You are the chosen ones." It sounded nothing like what I've just said—it appeared as if it was at a constant pitch—very calmly spoken. The voice sounded as if it came from an elderly person—someone of some standing, of some professionalism I should say, someone of some authority. It was a male voice, no particular accent other than it appeared to be perfect King's English. The voice was very moderate, neither deep nor high. The voice seemed to come from above generally but this may have been a function of my particular orientation with the room—that is lying on the bed on my back. It is a small room about 12ft. wide and 7ft. high and rather long. The intrusion of this voice somewhat raised my anxiety again and I decided to make a further effort to get out of bed. On doing so, I found the force still persisting and it took some great effort to get into a position which was beside the bed, so much so that my efforts finally overcame the force and I spun over very fast indeed to find myself lying on my right hand side. Feeling somewhat relieved but somewhat wet with sweat and my heart thumping like mad, I lay there for a few seconds trying to recover from it and tried to orientate my thoughts again.

After a short time, probably about ten seconds, I decided to get up out of bed, to do so, I threw myself, i.e. my legs, out of the bed and opened my eyes. Right in front of me there was a reflection—some bright light on the wall. Intuitively I realised that this must have come from the large window behind me and turned to look out of the window. Just above the ridge of the hill which lies immediately behind our house there was this bright blue ball of light which appeared to have no definite demarcation—that is no definite perimeter. This raised my curiosity even more, and without more ado I proceeded to stand on my feet and walk round

to the window. To look out of the window properly one has to get onto a large metal box to gain a line of sight through the small window at the top of the main window. But by the time I reached the window the light had gone. The only thing that was left was just a simple demarcation line, that is, the silhouette of the ridge of the hill behind the house. This was presumably coming from the street lighting in the valley beyond.

In retrospect, thinking about the actual intensity of the light, the reflection and its course, the reflection itself appeared to be about the intensity of a small hand torch. The dimensions, that is the reflection covered on the wall, were probably about 2ft. square and probably came as a result of the geometry of the window which is approximately that shape. The intensity of the light directly would be of one shining a torch in someone's face except the fact that it wasn't quite so dazzling. It wasn't white, it was of a blue hue. The appearance of the light source was somewhat bigger than the Moon—I had seen the Moon on many occasions over the hill—and this was much brighter (than the Moon) and I would say about twice or three times as large. The light itself was of even luminosity all over. One couldn't make out any lighter patches anywhere on its face, and I suppose as a result of the outward beaming of the light course, this resulted in a somewhat jagged perimeter.

The sound—that is the high-pitched hum—I presume must have persisted throughout the whole event, but with the intrusion of the light and the intervening points where the forces were acting on me in the bed, I suppose it fell into the back of the mind and these other things took prominence. Certainly, when I returned from the window, the sound was still evident but somewhat reduced in amplitude and it was just at this point that my father called from his bedroom to ask who it was. I identified myself and went into his bedroom. I asked him if he had heard this sound and he said, "Yes," he had lain awake for sometime listening to it but couldn't identify it. I did not relate to him my experience because all the other people were in bed and apparently hadn't been wakened by it and I just didn't want to disturb them. So I returned to bed and lay for a while trying to figure out what it was that I had experienced. But having been unable to come to any conclusion at all, I suppose sleep got the better of me and I went off back to sleep again.

The weather on this particular occasion was very—well—pretty calm. When I got up to the window there was very little wind, dense cloud above which resulted in a very dark night. I also think it may have been a very humid one. I certainly couldn't have mistaken this light for an aeroplane, for we're right under the route from Manchester airport and the craft passing here are very familiar to me and appear very different indeed to the light source I saw. The light source was certainly not any light from a star or any satellite because it was far too large and its altitude seems to have been at least no more than about 300ft. but this is very difficult to judge but certainly if it was further away it must have been bigger.

That morning I awoke at about 8.00 and going downstairs I found my father there who apparently hadn't slept much all the night. There was no one else up at that particular time. I had a quick breakfast and went out into the garden.

However, on coming back, probably about some thirty minutes later, I discovered that my brother had also risen and he was relating to my father this experience that he had had which was almost exactly the same as mine and he also related the experience with the voice. My brother sleeps in an adjacent room which has a door in it and this more often than not is closed and I found this most extraordinary that he should have had this experience. I then related my story which heightened the discussion to one of great amazement by all in the room. My father had a good laugh and said we had all been listening to strange voices in the night. He certainly verified the sound—that is the high pitched humming sound—but he had heard no voice at all and thought we were somewhat mad in this respect. My mother was of the same opinion as my father and it was just passed off as some peculiar dream that we had had. We discussed it at some length that particular morning, but thereafter it's been forgotten and discussed very little.

Previous to this experience I had heard very little about UFOs, but subsequently, my interest has been raised considerably from the standpoint of one of actual function of these particular objects. My interest lies (in) from a physical point of view, that is one which would be associated with a physicist—one dealing with the structure of matter and the evolution of the world and the part it plays in the galactic orientation and the other galaxies.

Looking back on this particular experience today, I mean I am completely convinced, as I was then, that it was a real experience and not a dream because there were so many governing factors which took part in the whole experience, that is, there were too many intervening stimuli and associations with other objects and actually another person, i.e. my father.”

—o—

The British U.F.O. Research Association does not hold or express corporate views on UFO phenomena. The Editor and his contributors are solely responsible for views advanced over their names in this 'Journal.'

Articles and items for inclusion in the 'Journal' must be sent direct to the Editor and not to other BUFORA officers. Requests for permission to reproduce material from the 'Journal' should also be addressed to the Editor.

“A GUIDE TO THE U.F.O. PHENOMENON.”

The first of a series of B.U.F.O.R.A. information booklets is available at 42p (Inc. P.P.) from A. West, 49 Mill Road, Burgess Hill, Sussex.

To encourage wide distribution of this very useful booklet special rates as below:

1 copy 42p. 3 copies 84p (save 42p). 5 copies 126p (save 84p).

All post paid.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT — 1971 - 1972

The following is a brief summary of the Report which the Chairman delivered to the Annual General Meeting on 7th October 1972. The Report will be appearing in full in the Annual Proceedings to be published in the Summer of 1973.

The Chairman began by thanking and paying tribute to the many individuals both on and off the Committee who willingly and unselfishly give their spare time and energy in furthering the best interests and ideals of the Association. Administratively BUFORA and particularly its committee members had had a very busy year indeed. The Chairman also thanked all the members for their continued generosity in financially supporting their Association and expressed the hope that, to ensure BUFORA's development and expansion, everyone would support the Committees' resolution increasing the annual subscription rate to £2.40. (Ed. *This resolution was later carried by a large majority*).

The Chairman then proceeded to summarise the main activities and achievements of BUFORA during the previous 12 months:—

1. **Membership**—After a figure of about 380 members at the start of the year, this was increasing at an encouraging rate and had currently reached 420.
2. **Finance**—Inflation was hitting BUFORA very hard in view of its largely fixed income and this year's small deficit was a timely warning that the subscription rate needed raising not only to maintain existing services but also to provide funds for expansion.
3. **Investigation and Research**—This is after all BUFORA's *raison d'être* and existing systems and procedures have been critically appraised and new and more efficient methods are now being implemented, e.g.
 - a. A formalised yet flexible system for investigation and liaison and communication has been adopted.
 - b. A revised network of regional co-ordinators is being established.
 - c. The UFO case files have been refiled in a modern filing cabinet and are presently being re-indexed and re-numbered prior to the transference of case data onto punched cards as part of our new card index system.
 - d. Plans are being made to record all original case material and UFO reports onto microfilm during the forthcoming year. This will improve security and assist research considerably and will enable BUFORA to exchange information with other UFO Researchers quickly and cheaply, e.g. for computer storage and analysis purposes.
 - e. A useful relationship has been established with several external bodies and organisations, e.g. Kodak and ATV.
 - f. The manpower survey was an undoubted success and plans are being made to harness the latest potential within our membership.

4. **Research Headquarters**—The important decision to establish a Research Headquarters has now been taken and everyone is asked to support generously the Foundation Fund which will be used solely for the work of UFO Research, e.g. the purchase of essential equipment. (Ed. *The astronomical research conducted at the Observatory is entirely separate and does not involve BUFORA or its funds*).
5. **Publicity**—Advertising has been maintained at a low level but a publicity campaign is planned for this coming year. A stream of miscellaneous requests for advice and information have been dealt with by the Vice-Chairman throughout the year.

The Committee would be pleased to hear from any member who can assist us with publicity or advertising.

6. **Lectures**—Congratulations and thanks were offered to Ivar Mackay for continuing to provide a varied lecture programme of a consistently high standard. It is intended to record these lectures for posterity by including them in the Annual Proceedings next year. This should be a considerable benefit for non-London members who are unable to attend these excellent meetings. Speaking as a Midlander, the Chairman said he would like to see more research seminars being held in the Midlands. Mr. and Mrs. T. Whitaker of the Yorkshire (previously Halifax) Branch of BUFORA have announced that they will be arranging a Northern Conference in Yorkshire sometime in the Spring of 1973.
7. **Publications**.—The increase in the cost of printing and postage has been of considerable concern to the committee, who believe that in spite of increasing costs, it is essential to maintain and indeed improve the quality of the BUFORA Journal and the other publications and communications of the Association.

BUFORA's first publication for external sale and distribution "A GUIDE TO THE UFO PHENOMENON" has now been published and distributed to the Press and TV and all members are urged to buy as many copies as possible for distribution to friends and potential members. If sales go well, it is hoped to publish a revised second edition of the booklet next year so all members are asked to lend as much support as they can.

The Chairman then concluded his Report.

WANTED—

PRE-1960 FSRs in good condition. Also FSR 8/1. Your price paid or will swop 3 for 1. £3.50 offered for a copy of "The Books of Charles Fort"—
R. FARROW, Oppegardsvn 2, 1400 Ski, Norway.

BOOK REVIEWS

THE UFO EXPERIENCE—A SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY

BY J. ALLEN HYNEK

Abelard-Schuman

PRICE: £2.50.

Flying saucer enthusiasts love a scientist sympathetic to their subject as dearly as the English are said to love a lord. I have no doubt that if Dr. Hynek had limited his text to a Sanscrit version of 'Puss-in-Boots,' the true believers would have hailed the book as a UFO classic. I shall try to be a little more objective in my assessment of the work.

This is a good book, a valuable and must-be-read book, but not, in my view, a really great book on the UFO phenomenon. I would regard it as ranking a little below the Vallee's, "Challenge to Science," or Ruppelt's "The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects," as a clear statement of the reasons why UFOs are deserving of the attention of the scientific fraternity.

Dr. Hynek is probably at his best when castigating his colleagues for their blatant disregard of the UFO data under their noses. One feels that he is, perhaps unconsciously, paying off not a few old scores. One hardly knows whether to laugh or be angry when reading of several hundred astronomers attending a reception at Victoria, British Columbia, in 1968, who, when UFOs were reported manoeuvring in the sky above the hall, giggled and engaged in casual banter instead of getting up and going outside to check the report. As one of the book's Chapter headings has it: "Science Is Not Always What Scientists Do," a point I have striven for years to drive home in the pages of this 'Journal.'

Dr. Hynek reviews the various categories of reported UFOs, from daylight discs and radar-visual sightings to cases in which a UFO lands and occupants emerge from it. He seems a trifle unhappy in his choice of examples illustrating the latter variety. I would not myself regard the Kelly-Hopkinsville "goblin" case, which he discusses at length, as in any way a typical, representative occupant report.

Project Bluebook is reproved for the use of the term, "Unidentified," in cases where a reported object could not be dismissed as a man-made artifact, natural phenomenon or hoax. However, since Dr. Hynek admits that a UFO is probably a manifestation presently inexplicable, it is difficult to know what else Bluebook could have done in such instances.

To sum up, there is a great deal in this book which is eminently valuable to UFO-research. If I find the book oddly disappointing, it is perhaps because one tends to expect a great deal from a man who was for twenty years astronomical consultant on UFOs to the U.S. Air Force.

However, on the positive side, it will be hard for scientists to ignore Dr. Hynek's work, which may well act as a spur to them to come to grips with the elusive UFO phenomenon.

J. C-B.

JOURNEYS OUT OF THE BODY

BY ROBERT A. MONROE

Souvenir Press.

PRICE: £2.50.

At first glance, out-of-the-body experiences appear to have little in common with UFOs. However, after studying Mr. Monroe's extraordinary activities in this direction, one feels that here may be a possible explanation of some of the more bizarre contact stories.

Robert Monroe is an American businessman who had his first out-of-the-body experience 15 years ago. He can now achieve this state at will and claims that he can bring back evidence that his jaunts are not just dreams. He describes how, when out in his "second body," he can travel to various places in the physical world but stresses that this is rather difficult because the "second body" is not geared to operate on this level. It is far more at home in the "second state"—a place where time and space do not exist, where to think is to be, and where one can "shape-shift" at will.

In the "second state" the author mentions contact with other entities of human appearance and describes how, at times, he was drawn through a "hole" in space to what seemed to be a parallel world. Also, when lying down on one occasion, he became conscious of being bathed in and transfixed by a powerful beam coming from the north, about 30° above the horizon. This beam probed his mind and appeared to be intelligently motivated. The vibrational states he describes prior to "taking off" are again reminiscent of some contact stories where witnesses undergo similar physical sensations when being scanned by UFOs and their occupants.

This book, taken at face value, presents a first-hand account of hundreds of out-of-the-body experiences, some of which are frightening and others exhilarating. It is well worth studying by the open-minded student and could possibly throw a lot of light on the UFO mystery.

B.D.W

THE ETERNAL MAN

BY LOUIS PAUWELS and JACQUES BERGIER

Souvenir Press.

PRICE: £2.50.

The thought of ploughing through yet another volume on ancient civilisations-cum-spacemen/gods visiting planet Earth was a trifle daunting and to a certain extent my worst fears were realised. Once again we run the gamut of Piri Reis maps, the Voynitch manuscript, Sumerian Fishmen, prehistoric batteries, gold-plating in South America, etc., etc., all mixed together in a hotch-potch of fact and theory.

The authors say their sole aim in writing the book is to induce men to keep their minds as open as possible—a statement which is inclined to make me regard their rambling, verbose style with more tolerance. They seem equally antagonistic towards occultists and scientists together, although some of their own theories are even wilder—perhaps, however, Gallic enthusiasm does not translate too well.

If one has patience and tenacity, there are a great many fascinating items here which are little known which could all point to the existence of advanced and sophisticated cultures and civilisations thousands of years before the “accepted” dawn of *homo sapiens*. There is no doubt that if you enjoyed the authors’ first book “The Morning of the Magicians,” you will enjoy this further work.

B.D.W

BOOKS RECEIVED.

MYSTERIES FROM FORGOTTEN WORLDS BY CHARLES BERLITZ,
Souvenir Press, price £2.50. For review in the next issue.

NOW AVAILABLE :

A NEW REVISED EDITION OF:—

- ★ **UFOs**
- ★ **UNIDENTIFIED**
- ★ **UNDENIABLE**

by: A. R. PACE, F.R.A.S. and R. H. STANWAY, M.B.A., F.R.A.S.

As the 1st Edition (1,000 copies) of this fascinating account of the 1967 UFO wave in Central England sold out within 18 months of its publication in 1968, a limited number (250) of this 2nd Edition has been printed in response to the many requests received since then.

Although the 100 page book remains largely unaltered, it has been updated to include an intriguing new case and the unexpected and remarkable reactions of the Ministry of Defence to the book’s contents following its original publication.

Write now for your copy to NEWCHAPEL OBSERVATORY, STOKE-ON-TRENT. Price £1.50 plus 15p postage and packaging. (USA \$4 inc.) Cheques should be made payable to “NEWCHAPEL OBSERVATION UFO REPORT.”

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Editor, BUFORA Journal,
3 Devenish Rd., Weeke, Nr. Winchester,
HANTS.

3A Part St.,
Southport, LANCs.
30.8.1972.

Dear Editor,

May I, on behalf of the many who feel as I do, express a heartfelt 'Hear! Hear!' to the conclusions on Ufology reached by 'P.W.' as outlined in your Summer '72 Journal on pages 9/10 and headed 'WHENCE'?

I have been a student of Ufology for about the same time as the author, namely 10 years, and my findings after having been around the world 3 times and read, investigated and researched in many parts of the world pretty well coincide with the contents of the above mentioned article.

Sooner or later I would have had to summarise on paper my own thoughts and feelings on the enigma which we call the UFO.

'P.W., you have saved me that task.

May I also express my conviction that the suggestions to enable us to realise 'A BRIGHT NEW FUTURE' as outlined in a special supplement by Roger Stanway are both practical and imaginative.

To quote Mr. Stanway's own words 'We have reached a critical stage in our Association's history.'

The implementation of Mr. Stanway's objectives at this time could well make the difference between a most mediocre future for the Association and one which rightly relies on its own consolidated strength, a forward looking programme and an effective agent for the investigation and dissemination of all information which may rightly be said to fall within the scope of Ufology.

Mr. Stanway, may I wish you luck with all others of your Committee in the implementation of that imaginative programme.

My regards,

SEAN AINSCOUGH.

CARAVAN—

Warminster enthusiasts will be pleased to note that the Skywatch Caravan will again be sited at Warminster. Write (s.a.e.) please for information, which will be forwarded early in Spring—A. West, 49 Mill Road, Burgess Hill, Sussex.

EUROPEAN UFO CONFERENCE, MAY 26th & 27th, 1972

Left to right :

CHARLES BOWEN, *Editor, "Flying Saucer Review."*

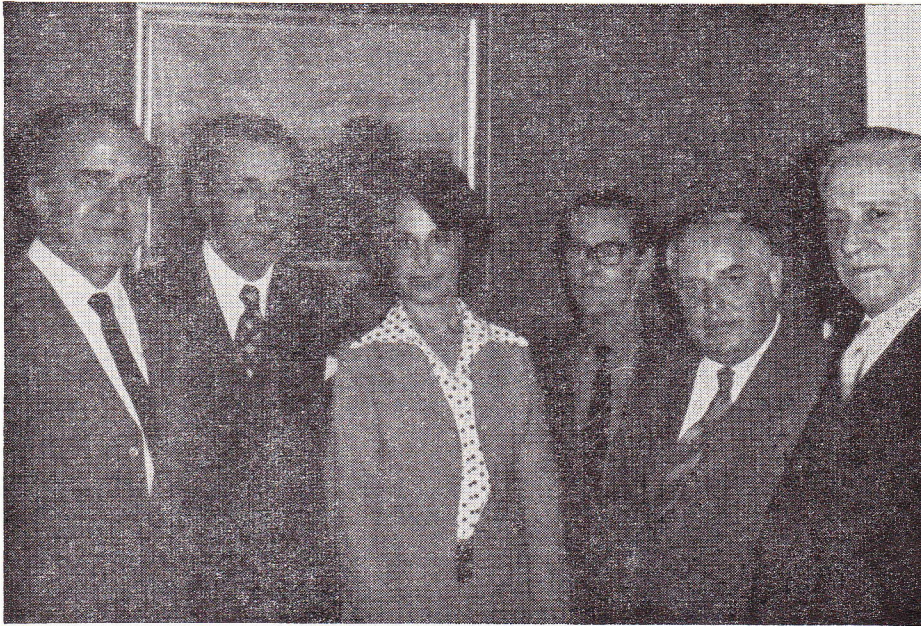
HON. BRINSLEY, LE POER FRENCH, *International Chairman of CONTACT.*

CTESSE R. D'OULTREMONT, *Belgium.*

CAPTAIN E. I. A. MACKAY, *BUFORA.*

DR. J. CLEARY-BAKER, *BUFORA.*

French Delegate.



Scene of "The UFO Vision" (See Roger Stanway's article in text).

RICHARD COLBORNE. The National Investigations Co-Ordinator has recently moved, his new address is:—

"Tresis," Bagshot Road, West End,
Woking, Surrey.

(Telephone: Chobham STD 099-05 7213).

INVESTIGATIONS SECTION

REPORT from THE NATIONAL INVESTIGATIONS CO-ORDINATOR

Investigation Co-ordination—Nationwide.

Since taking office I have been devoting all my available time to the problem of organizing the National Investigations Co-ordination department. With no written procedure the modus operandi is left, it seems to the discretion of the newly appointed officer, so I studied what files and documents were passed on to me and soon came to the conclusion that there is more work involved than it is possible for one person to cope with on a part-time basis. The quantity of letters and telephone calls that have to be answered, and the number of cases that have to be allocated for investigation during a flap is enough to drive a man to drink.

De-centralisation of Investigations.

It is now recognised that it will take a well organised team, to co-ordinate investigations on a national scale. The National Investigations Co-ordinator, must in future have at least one personal assistant—Bob Skinner has already volunteered his services—and high priority is being given to completing the selection of Regional Co-ordinators that was started by Tim.

Members will be pleased to learn that in addition to the four Regional Co-ordinators whose names were published in Vol. 3, No. 6, of this Journal, a further ten have been selected and are under consideration by the N.E.C.

Some of the Regions have been sub-divided so that it should be possible for a Regional Co-ordinator to maintain closer contact with his investigators.

Investigator Network.

The network of investigators is currently under revision and it is the intention of the N.I.C. that the whole of Great Britain should be adequately covered—Some large gaps exist at present.

Earlier this year a number of members completed questionnaires, with their qualifications and experience, etc. Their names have been added to the existing list which now forms the basis for a **National Network**.

The Status of Area Investigators.

There has been inquiries from some investigators who are concerned about their status within the Association. All investigators who have in the past shown a good standard of work and/or have shown continued interest to conduct investigations, can rest assured that they will continue to enjoy their status.

Members who have only just requested to be investigators, will receive advice and/or training as soon as possible.

Area Investigators Reference Number.

Some investigators have sometime in the past been allocated Reference Numbers and style themselves accordingly. While others are quoting their membership numbers.

To those investigators who are using their 'Reference Numbers,' I must give this warning. There are no plans for augmenting the system and absolutely no existing record of who owns what number—it is a system that has long fallen into disuse.

And a further warning to those who are using their membership numbers: Whilst it is useful to quote your membership numbers on internal correspondence, it is inadvisable to publicise them or allow the press to quote them as some embarrassing situations could arise. Membership numbers are not unique and any member who changes his or her address or allows their subscription to lapse, is very likely to have their number changed and these numbers are frequently re-allocated.

Credit, given where Credit Deserved.

Praise is deserved by many of our investigators for their efforts in the past. I know that my predecessor conveys his sincere thanks to those who investigated the numerous reports during last year's flap, many of whom were in areas where supervision was impossible.

I have no doubt that your enthusiasm will continue. There are a few unlucky people who live in areas where sightings are rare and have complained that they are never given anything to do. The utmost is being done to distribute work evenly and there will be special projects for investigators with time on their hands.

Procedures for Investigation.

A circular will be sent round in the near future, outlining procedures which are at present only known to a few. With only the smallest amount of modification, the implementation of existing procedures should increase the speed and efficiency of investigation and in the publication of investigated cases. There exists a wealth of material from previously investigated sightings and as yet many sightings from last year's flap are still uninvestigated. Details of outstanding cases are being distributed to investigators as soon as possible.

RICHARD P. COLBORNE, *National Investigations Co-ordinator.*

N.B. All future correspondence and sighting reports should be sent to me at:
"Tresis," Bagshot Road, West End, Woking, Surrey.

TREASURER'S NOTICE.

The recommendations of the N.E.C. to increase membership subscriptions was ratified by the 1972 A.G.M. New rates are £2.40 annual Subscription (pro rata for new members joining during the year) and £20 life membership.

The Committee thanks all those members who, having renewed their subscriptions at the old rate, have made a special donation of the difference (90p) and would appreciate it if others member could follow this example. A.W.

BUFORA RESEARCH 1972

1. Appraisal of Existing BUFORA Report Files.

(a) This has been initiated. All reports which have explanations including those which contain insufficient data for evaluation will be separated from the relatively small residue of inexplicable cases. This remaining hard core of quality sightings containing an appreciable amount of scientific data will form the basis of the Report Analysis Card System.

(b) Checks to be made in other UFO sighting records and sources, e.g. Flying Saucer Review and other U.K. UFO organisations for British cases, that are missing from our files. BUFORA is endeavouring to build up a more 'complete' picture of British UFO activity.

2. Expansion of BUFORA Report Files.

As we proceed with the above, there should also be a strong emphasis on international co-operation wherever possible. Hard core case histories could be exchanged with UFO groups all over the world to provide us with a truly global coverage of the phenomenon.

3. Research Projects.

In the future more importance should be placed on comparative studies where the aim is to attempt to establish the scientific reality of certain commonly reported UFO characteristics and effects.

In the past with statistical analyses where the number of sightings were plotted against location or time, the researcher always came back to the fact that he could never include all UFO sightings, and more probably in his sample unknowingly used many cases with normal explanations. The results of such studies could be said to be meaningless.

It may be said that to establish a particular characteristic of UFOs one does not necessarily need all the cases, but instead perhaps 100, 500 or a 1,000 authenticated reports containing sufficient scientific data which supports and corroborates the 'fact.'

4. Specialisation.

Specialisation should be a key factor in research and that this policy be encouraged with the emphasis now placed on individual members of the Association and others, who would be directly responsible to the Director of Research.

5. Microfilming the Report Files.

BUFORA is to go ahead shortly with the microfilming of all its report files, initially as a safety factor, but also to facilitate the exchange of information on an international scale. In particular we are contributing our British UFO reports (those which remain unexplained) to the APRO COMCAT Project—a global computerised catalogue of UFO sightings initiated by Aerial Phenomena Research Organization in the U.S.A.

ANTHONY R. PACE, *Director of Research.*

UFO STATISTICS — 1st JANUARY 1949 to 31st DECEMBER, 1969

UFO Reports contained on the files of the British UFO Research Association

Year	Satellites and Debris	Balloons	Celestial Objects	Meteoro- logical and other Natural Phenomena	Aircraft	Misc.	Insufficient Data	UFOs	Total
1949	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	4
1950	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
1952	—	1	2	—	1	—	2	1	7
1953	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	4
1954	—	2	—	2	1	2	8	2	17
1955	—	1	2	2	1	1	3	3	13
1956	—	1	5	1	1	2	3	2	15
1957	—	2	2	3	5	4	4	4	24
1958	—	2	6	2	3	1	2	4	20
1959	1	2	5	2	3	4	2	1	20
1960	3	6	15	5	8	1	8	5	51
1961	5	6	12	4	8	1	11	6	53
1962	7	7	18	4	11	4	14	8	73
1963	2	6	8	3	14	4	14	6	57
1964	8	8	11	3	9	7	13	5	64
1965	8	6	22	5	16	6	18	12	93
1966	24	21	23	19	48	19	61	30	245
1967	35	16	63	17	93	23	92	40	379
1968	23	4	13	9	35	13	13	11	121
1969	17	8	28	6	29	8	10	4	110
TOTAL	133	99	235	88	287	102	283	145	1,372

Note : Miscellaneous reports include, for example, hoaxes, the reflection of lights on cloud, flares, fireworks, kites, lights on tall structures and photographic aberrations, etc.
Approximately 10% of these reports (UFOs) remain unexplained.

Compiled by A. R. PACE.

STAFFORDSHIRE BRANCH FORMED

A new branch of the Association has been formed in Staffordshire.

All members who live in Staffordshire and surrounding counties are invited to participate in all future activities of the Branch.

The branch will provide West Midland members with a focal point for research, a basis to meet socially and an opportunity for the mutual exchange of ideas.

Please contact Hon. Secretary: MR. PAUL GREGORY,
25, Wye Road, Clayton,
Newcastle under Lyme,
Staffs ST5 4AZ.
Tel. Newcastle (Staffs) 619658.

UFOLOG (Sightings Supplement)

UFO sighting-reports intended for inclusion in UFOLOG should be sent direct to the compiler, as follows:—

MRS. K. SMITH,
"Ringlemere," Colwell Road,
Colwell Bay, Isle of Wight.

A large percentage of all UFO reports relate to misidentified man-made artifacts or natural phenomena. 'Journal' readers must decide for themselves whether or not a given sighting ought to be assigned a conventional explanation or retained in the 'Unknown' category.

To assist them in reaching a decision, each report bears a number, i.e. 3/5/4, which implies Volume 3, Number 5, Report 4. Reports appearing in a given issue of the 'Journal' will be thus identified in future issues, when a verdict on each report will be delivered in the light of subsequent enquiries by BUFORA investigators.

Only major sightings can be evaluated fully. Minor sightings will, when possible, be subjected to appraisal.

It has been decided to confine the contents of UFOLOG to sightings reported within the compass of the British Isles, since investigation of foreign reports ought to devolve upon UFO societies operating in the countries concerned.

J. C-B.

Ref. : 3/8/1.

Date : 1st May, 1970.

Time : 2030 hrs.

Location : Glastonbury Tor.

Witness, a young police officer and four other people, saw eight objects at Glastonbury Tor. They were in a northerly direction and the witness described them as bright, maroon coloured, egg-shaped objects with a halo of light on the surface edges. They appeared to be solid but hazy.

When first seen they were hovering at an estimated height of 70° and were visible for five minutes. The witness described them as "hovering in a 'missing man' formation," and at the end of this period they broke away from each other and disappeared, all at the same time.

The weather was warm, not thundery, with moderate wind. There was no sound from the objects.
Investigated by R. M. SKINNER.

Ref. : 3/8/2

Date : 18th October, 1971

Time : 0215hrs.

Location : Middleton Cheney, nr. Banbury.

In the early hours of the morning witness, Mr. C. woke to find that the area outside his window was illuminated by a very powerful light, it was raining heavily at the time. On looking out of the window he realized that the source of the light was close to the house on its far side (eastern side). The house cast a shadow over most of the lawn but even so, Mr. C. said it was so bright that he could see the worms on the lawn.

The light was extinguished for a short while and Mr. C. woke his wife. When the light returned it had moved a little towards the north, and after a few seconds the light was extinguished again. At the same time an ear-splitting whine began. The noise was similar to a radio "Off station," but more intense, with a pulsating rhythm on a low frequency modulated by another of a higher frequency. Mr. C. said that the noise was unbearable even with their hands clasped over their ears. It continued for several minutes but was so disturbing that it was not possible to judge the time accurately. The noise stopped briefly and then began again on a single note, at the same time the witnesses saw an intense light comparable in size to a street lamp, at about 100 yards distance. The light was now to the east at an elevation of 35°-40° and further away. It increased in brightness and appeared to recede; it ascended and vanished.

When the light source was at its closest on the east side of the house, it was near a Junction of overhead electricity cables.

No noise was heard by neighbours and neither did Mr. C's two sons wake.

Investigated by C. DAVID OAKLEY-HILL and RICHARD COLBORNE.

Ref. : 3/8/3.

Date : 27th October, 1971.

Time : 0810 hrs.

Location : Hailey, Oxfordshire.

Mr. C. H. Walls and his wife reported seeing a strange object in the sky early in the morning of October 27th, 1971. With the unaided eye it looked like a vapour trail, but through binoculars two objects could be seen, shaped like oxygen cylinders, one yellow and one orange. The yellow one, which appeared to be nearest, was brighter than the sun.

Investigated by R. P. COLBORNE and R. M. SKINNER.

Ref. :

Date : 19th December, 1971.

Time : 1620-1650 hrs.

Location : Rochester, Kent.

Mr. Malcolm Pay watched a very bright light moving across the sky very slowly, from east to west. At one point it remained stationary for about 8 minutes before resuming its journey.

According to the witness it resembled a very bright star, was white in colour and made no sound. A similar object was seen by Mr. Pay on 13th June, 1972.
S.I.G.A.P.

Ref. : 3/8/4.

Date : August 6th, 1972.

Time : 2045 hrs. BST.

Location : Liverpool.

In a letter published in the Liverpool Echo on August 16th the witness, Mr. Vic Stephens, wrote:

At 8.45 p.m. on Sunday, August 6th, my wife and I were sitting in our car at the Pier Head watching the sunset when we noticed a very bright iridescent object stationary in the sky at a tremendous height. We both watched it through binoculars and after it had remained in one position for about three minutes it veered rapidly in a westerly direction and then remained suspended without movement for another two minutes. During the movement there was a condensation trail similar to that caused by a jet but a few seconds after it had stopped the condensation trail disappeared. Whilst hovering there appeared to be red flames issuing from the rear. At three minutes to nine it sped rapidly out of sight in a westerly direction. There was a jet plane also in the sky at this time but this was the orthodox, easily recognisable object.

Merseyside UFO Bulletin.

Ref. : 3/8/5.

Date : 13th August, 1972.

Time : 1500 hrs.

Location : Gatwick Airport.

A dirigible object was seen at Gatwick Airport by an officer off-duty watching aircraft. The "Zepelin"-shaped object was observed travelling north-east to south-west with its rear end enveloped in blue smoke. After about 70 seconds the smoke surrounding the object cleared quickly to reveal that the object had vanished.

Three days prior to this sighting on 10th August, Mr. W. Jelly, an employee at London Airport was shooting pigeons just south of the airport when he observed what he described as a whirlwind which passed over from west to east for a period of ten minutes, from 1230 to 1240 hrs. B.S.T.

A large quantity of loose straw was raised from outside the airport perimeter and was estimated by qualified airport staff to be reaching an altitude of no less than 4 miles. Some of the straw later fell out on the airport. On the same date, time unspecified, an account in the Daily Mirror of August 11th stated that there was a fall-out of straw at Heathrow and reports had been received from pilots encountering layers of straw suspended at high altitudes. On the 14th August straw was falling at Heston in Cambridgeshire, according to a newspaper report.

Investigated by ARNOLD WEST.

Ref. : 3/8/6.

Date : 24th September, 1972.

Time : 2000 hrs.

Location : Horsham.

Mr. Michael Fiest and his girl-friend saw a bright light in the northern sky when they were in Horsham Park. The couple saw the light execute certain repeated movements mainly in the nature of moving backwards and forwards through a wide arc, for almost two minutes before it vanished behind a clump of trees.

Investigated by JOHN SCARRY.

Ref. : 3/8/7.

Date : 4th October, 1972.

Time : 2225 hrs. U.T.

Location : Winsford, Cheshire.

Witness, Mr. Bryan Bishop, was on night shift, and while he was in the works yard he saw in the eastern sky a series of eight lights forming a diamond shape. When first seen only five lights were visible but as the object moved almost overhead, eight lights were visible. The centre appeared hazy and it was not possible to discern whether this was eight objects or one object carrying eight lights.

Mr. Bishop is an amateur astronomer and a keen meteor observer, he is familiar with the night sky and can recognise natural phenomena and satellites, etc.

He described the lights as white, magnitude —1 (almost as bright as Sirius). They were visible for a period of four minutes, travelling at a moderate speed across the sky from east to south-east and they disappeared in the distance.

Investigated by GORDON CLEGG.

UFOLOG APPRAISALS

- Ref. : 3/7/1: This is certainly a most intriguing report and one appearing to contain a number of the familiar effects encountered in past "close approach" UFO cases involving motor vehicles. This event is certainly worthy of detailed study.
- Ref. : 3/7/2: From the appearance and behaviour of the object I suggest that it may well have been some type of flare.
- Ref. : 3/7/3: High flying aircraft reflecting the rising sun, The "slipper-shape" is a "give away."
- Ref. : 3/7/4: It is difficult to account for an object which remained stationary for about ten minutes then moved off steadily. The wake, on the other hand, is consistent with a high flying aircraft and the reddish glow from the Sun which had set about half an hour beforehand. More details required.
- Ref. : 3/7/5: Sounds like a reflection phenomenon.
- Ref. : 3/7/6: In spite of the impression of the object created by the witness's vivid descriptions, I believe the phenomenon observed on 3rd September was nothing more than a bright fireball (bolide). The meteorite of 25th April, 1969 was described by some witnesses in exactly the same manner. The second object also appears to be a meteor.
- Ref. : 3/7/7: I have heard of a bird like the one described but it did not disappear in the north-east!! Joking apart perhaps it was an unfamiliar bird or some wind blown debris?
- Ref. : 3/7/9: An interesting little report but not much to go on.
- Ref. : 3/7/10: It is a pity the object in question is not described in more detail, Possibly it was something akin to ball lightning?
- Ref. : 3/7/11: Too little detail to rule out an aircraft.
- Ref. : 3/7/12: I am not sure here whether an 'object' as such was observed or whether it was merely a bright red light source. The sighting is not particularly interesting as it stands. Perhaps an aircraft light plus a flare?
- Ref. : 3/7/13: This report is typically characteristic of a bolide.
- Ref. : 3/7/14: The sound and lights described in this report are not unusual enough by themselves to rule out low flying aircraft.
- Ref. : 3/7/15: Were these UFOs in fact objects or just coloured lights? If the latter, then this is nothing more than an aircraft.
- Ref. : 3/7/16: The flashing red light is indicative of an aircraft. The "powerful beams" could well have been the landing lights.
- Ref. : 2/7/17: Essential details are missing from this report. It may have been some meteorological phenomenon.
- Ref. : 3/7/18: An aircraft again?

A. R. PAGE.

BUFORA RESEARCH HEADQUARTERS FOUNDATION FUND

The Committee are pleased to say that there has been an encouraging response from the membership with donations towards our Headquarters Foundation Fund. However if there are other members who feel they also can now give a little extra support to the Association we would be grateful to hear from them.

At our December Meeting we discussed the type of equipment which was considered suitable for the new Research Headquarters. In order to achieve maximum benefit from the Foundation Fund it was suggested that we advertise to BUFORA members asking whether they could help by donating equipment (particularly in the case of those who would like to help but could not contribute to the cash fund) or provide sources of cheap, secondhand or surplus equipment. Some essential items would be a typewriter, filing cabinet, office furniture, photocopying facilities, photographic equipment, a drawing board, microscope, scientific reference books and so on.

Following the establishment of the Research H.Q. and our determination to begin real UFO Research in the New Year, a Projects Officer has been appointed for the Research Section to initiate a research programme and co-ordinate various scientific projects in which members are welcome to participate. If you feel you would be prepared to give a regular part of your leisure time to a particular research project or failing that, you could suggest a practicable and potentially useful aspect of the phenomenon for special study, please write to:-

CHARLES LOCKWOOD,
Projects Officer,
BUFORA Research H.Q.,
Newchapel Observatory,
Newchapel,
Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs.

More details of these projects will appear in the first issue of the new Research Bulletin in January.

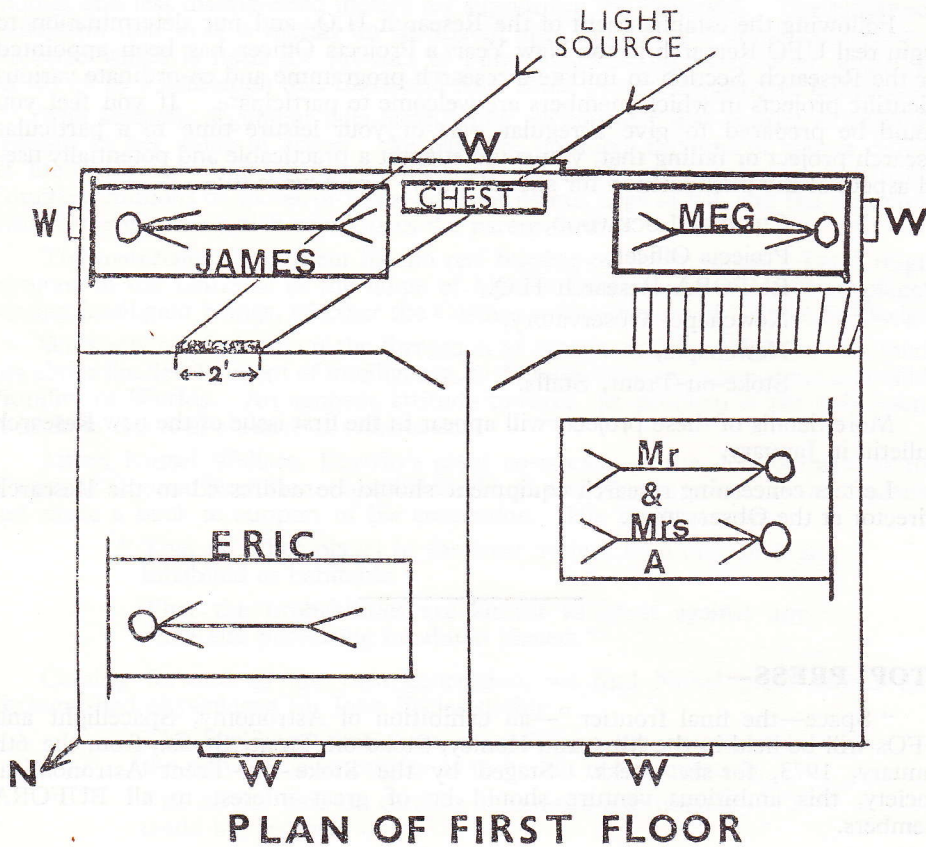
Letters concerning research equipment should be addressed to the Research Director at the Observatory.

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STOP PRESS—

"Space—the final frontier"—an exhibition of Astronomy, Spaceflight and UFOs will be held in the Museum, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs., from the 6th January, 1973, for six weeks. Staged by the Stoke-on-Trent Astronomical Society, this ambitious venture should be of great interest to all BUFORA members.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A
HAPPY NEW YEAR
TO
ALL OUR READERS



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AIMS :

1. To encourage and promote unbiased scientific investigation and research into Unidentified Flying Object phenomena.
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3. To co-ordinate UFO Research on a nation-wide scale and co-operate with persons and organisations engaged upon similar research in all parts of the world.

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